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# THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION

No. 3

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1984

### MEETINGS

L.A.A. Medical Libraries Section. Annual General Meeting. Brisbane,  
28th August, 1984.

The Annual General Meeting of the Section was held during the NZ/LAA Biennial Conference in Brisbane. Some of the matters raised at the meeting are reported in detail elsewhere in this Newsletter. Among other items of interest were:

#### Accreditation Guide

The N.S.W. Group informed the meeting that a new edition of the Accreditation Guide is being prepared by the Australian Council of Hospital Standards. The National Committee has undertaken to contact the Council, and will take appropriate action if a revision of the Hospital Library entry is required.

#### Peer Review

The relevance of peer review and evaluation of library services was mentioned. It was generally agreed that these issues would be of future importance to our profession.

CONFERENCES ..... CONFERENCES ..... CONFERENCES ..... CONFERENCES .....

National Seminar: Learning Resources for the Health Sciences in Australia,  
Adelaide, 30th November, 1984.

This seminar, sponsored by the South Australian College of Advanced Education, is a multidisciplinary meeting, aimed at getting an impression of how the information needs of health professionals are being served. Guest speaker will be Ann Manning, past-President of the Canadian Health Libraries Association.

For more information, contact:

Claire Clark,  
Site Librarian,  
SACAE, Sturt Site Library,  
BEDFORD PARK, S.A. 5042.  
Phone: (08) 275 5290

Australian Medical Librarians' 6th Biennial Conference, Melbourne,  
25th-29th August, 1985.

Theme: Medical Libraries - New Directions

The Conference Planning Committee has released a tentative programme outline:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Sunday 25th    | Welcome reception.   |
| Monday 26th    | Keynote speaker and Presidential address.<br>Papers on the history of medicine and medical<br>libraries in Australia.              |
| Tuesday 27th   | Guest speaker.<br>Papers on library design and planning.<br>Library visits.  |
| Wednesday 28th | Papers and discussion on management and continuing<br>education, including Healthnet, Australian<br>Medical Index, microcomputers. |
| Thursday 29th  | Guest speaker.<br>New directions, new technology, including MEDLARS III,<br>electronic publishing.                                 |

Proposals for papers should be submitted by 28th February, 1985.

First announcement brochures have already been distributed. For further information, contact the Conference Planning Committee Convenor:

Mrs Jo Marshall,  
Librarian,  
Walter & Eliza Hall Institute,  
PARKVILLE, VICTORIA, 3052.

5th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (5ICML), Tokyo,  
30th September - 4th October, 1985.

Theme: Medical Libraries - One World  
Resources, Cooperation, Services

Planning for 5ICML is being reported in a series of Bulletins. A tentative programme of theme speeches alternating with concurrent sessions has been prepared. The first day will be devoted to a selection of continuing education courses provided by the Medical Library Association (U.S.), and to a tour of the Japan Information Center of Science and Technology.

Papers for presentation were to be selected by September 1984, and abstracts will be ready for distribution by 31st March, 1985.

Conference organizers are expecting about 15-20 participants from Australia and New Zealand. The L.A.A.- M.L.S. National Executive is making enquiries with airlines about package deals for group travel to Japan. For a group of 10 or more people, the return fare would be about \$1000. It would help the Committee if the approximate number of travellers were known. If you are at all interested in taking advantage of a group package, would you let the secretary know by 7th December, 1984. (This will not involve

a commitment to travel.) Please leave your names with:

Ms Aina Zalitis,  
Librarian,  
Cancer Institute,  
481 Lt. Lonsdale Street,  
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3000.

The 5ICML Organizing Committee will send further newsletters and brochures to the National Executive for distribution, but anybody wishing to make direct contact should write to:

Japan Organizing Committee/5th ICML,  
c/- Medical Library and Information Center,  
Keio University,  
35 Shinanomachi, Shinjuku-ku,  
TOKYO 160, JAPAN.

#### IFLA, 1985

For dedicated jet-setters, the 1985 IFLA Meeting will be held in Chicago, U.S.A., on 18th-24th August, 1985.

The Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries, in conjunction with the Medical Libraries Association has a special programme planned for this meeting. (But if you attend, you will miss the Australian Medical Librarians' Conference Welcome Reception in the Regent Hotel's spectacular sky-high terrace!)

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### Bibliography of Australian Medicine and Health Services

This bibliography is a joint project of the Commonwealth Department of Health and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians History of Medicine Library. It has been accepted as an Australian Bicentennial Project.

The editorial committee wishes to include all publications of medical and paramedical interest, published in or about Australia. It is intended to include government publications and items held in private collections. The first priority will be to cover the period 1900 to 1950, but ultimately, the bibliography will list works published between 1790 and 1950.

Further details and copies of the Guidelines can be obtained from:

The Librarian (BIEAM Project),  
Royal Australasian College of Physicians,  
145 Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000

##### IFLA World List of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries

This will be the first such list since the Directory of Medical Libraries outside the United States and Canada was published in 1963. Its scope includes collections in biological sciences, veterinary science, pharmacy, dentistry and allied health, as well as medicine. It will also list equivalent national and regional directories, and associations of biological and medical sciences librarians.

The L.A.A. Medical Libraries Section was asked to provide details of 25 major resource libraries of Australia for inclusion. After consultation with State Sectional Groups, the libraries nominated as Australia's entries are:

National Library of Australia, Life Sciences Section  
 Australian Department of Health  
 C.S.I.R.O.  
 Biomedical Library, University of N.S.W.  
 Badham and Medical Libraries, University of Sydney  
 N.S.W. Department of Health  
 Westmead-A.M.A. Library  
 Gardiner Library, University of Newcastle/Royal Newcastle Hospital  
 Library, University of Queensland  
 Queensland Institute of Medical Research  
 James Cook University of North Queensland  
 Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide  
 Medical Library, Flinders University  
 S.A. Health Commission  
 Biomedical Library and Albert C. Baikie Clinical Library,  
 University of Tasmania  
 Brownless Medical Library, University of Melbourne  
 Biomedical Library, Monash University  
 John Lindell Library, Health Commission of Victoria  
 Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences  
 Gordon Craig Library, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
 Central Cancer Library, Cancer Institute  
 Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre, University of Western Australia  
 Health Department of Western Australia.

Thank you to the librarians of these libraries for their time and cooperation in filling in the worksheets for submission to IFLA.

## NEWS FROM THE STATES

Items in this section have been compiled mainly from the minutes of State meetings. It will help the National Executive to ensure coordination and communication between State Groups if State secretaries continue to send copies of all minutes and local newsletters to the National secretary.

### New South Wales

Nursing librarians are preparing for the move of nursing education to the Colleges of Advanced Education. A meeting between the present N.S.W. College of Nursing librarian, and C.A.E. librarians has produced an agreement to cooperate with acquisitions, and plans for a further meeting.

A sub-committee has been formed to examine hospital libraries' computing requirements.

The Group has drawn up a letter to be sent to new Section members. It is similar to a letter distributed by the Special Libraries Section.

### Queensland

The Queensland Group has been busy this year organizing functions for the Medical Libraries Section members attending the NZ/LAA Conference. Activities of particular concern were the annual general meeting, a session

on career paths for medical librarians, and hospitality for interstate visitors.

At meetings during the year, the Group has been interested in standards for hospital libraries, and online searching using alternatives to MEDLINE.

### South Australia

South Australian medical librarians have formed GRATISSA, a cooperative for free exchange of inter-library loans. Its aims include:

- the production and maintenance of a union list of periodicals of participants;
- provision of free inter-library loan photocopies between participants;
- reduction of dependence on the collections of larger institutions;
- cooperation at group level with similar groups, eg. GRATIS in N.S.W.

Membership is available to all South Australian medical and health sciences libraries. Member libraries are ranked according to the number of current periodical subscriptions.

The successful operation of the scheme will depend largely on the provision of an accurate union list, and the cooperation of member libraries in following the borrowing rules. Loan requests should be directed to the smallest library capable of satisfying them, and requests to larger libraries restricted to materials uniquely held by them.

A feasibility study is in progress to determine whether a separate major medical library should be established in South Australia. The South Australian Libraries Advisory Committee (SALAC) has been convened to enquire into state health library services, and report to government. An initial proposal was that a Joint-Medical Library should be established, based on major existing medical collections, eg. those of the University of Adelaide (Barr-Smith) Library and the South Australian Institute of Technology Library.

The Medical Libraries Section (S.A. Group) has made a submission to SALAC and is now awaiting the outcome of the study.

### Victoria

The Victorian Group has compiled a set of Draft Minimum Standards for Victorian Hospital Libraries. Copies of the document have been sent to the L.A.A. Board of Education, and to the Committee to Monitor Library Standards. Further ratification of the standards, and their distribution to Victorian hospital libraries will depend on their acceptance by the L.A.A.

A Working Party has been convened to consolidate views on problems experienced in hospital libraries because of the Copyright Act.

A combined meeting with the Public Libraries Section on the topic of medical information for the general public was well attended by members of both sections. Discussion highlighted the need for continued cooperation between the types of libraries.

The Publications Working Party has produced a prototype List of Books and Journals for Small Hospital Libraries. It has been very well received, so it appears that a market will exist for a more formal publication, with contents updated where appropriate.

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

There have been some changes in the composition of the National Executive for 1985. The office-bearers and committee members will be:

President: Joan Martin, Brownless Library, University of Melbourne  
Secretary: Sandra Russell, St. Vincent's Hospital  
Treasurer: Barbara Jacoby, Lincoln Institute, School of Nursing  
Committee: Enid Meldrum, Alfred Hospital  
Anne Parkhowell, Lincoln Institute  
Jo Marshall, Walter & Eliza Hall Institute  
Mary McGill, Royal Melbourne Hospital  
Aina Zalitis, Central Cancer Library, Cancer Institute.

Members of the old and new committees wish all members a successful 1985, and look forward to seeing you in Melbourne in August.

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Newsletter editor: S. Russell